

# Chapter 480-62 WAC

## RAILROAD COMPANIES—OPERATIONS

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### WAC

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480-62-030 Flagpersons. [Statutory Authority: RCW 81.53.420. WSR 78-05-053 (Order R-114, Cause No. TR-1100), § 480-62-030, filed 4/26/78.] Repealed by WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW.

480-62-040 Exemption. [Statutory Authority: RCW 81.53.420. WSR 78-05-053 (Order R-114, Cause No. TR-1100), § 480-62-040, filed 4/26/78.] Repealed by WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01. Statutory Authority: RCW

- 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW.
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- 480-62-070 Passenger carrying vehicles—Operation. [Statutory Authority: RCW 81.61.020 and 81.61.030. WSR 78-05-053 (Order R-114, Cause No. TR-1100), § 480-62-070, filed 4/26/78.] Repealed by WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW.
- 480-62-080 Accident reports. [Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040 and 81.44.065. WSR 81-10-017 (Order R-162, Cause No. TR-1456), § 480-62-080, filed 4/27/81. Statutory Authority: RCW 81.28.280. WSR 79-02-087 (Order R-122, Cause No. TV-1199), § 480-62-080, filed 2/7/79.] Repealed by WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW.
- 480-62-085 Annual reports. [Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. WSR 94-11-003 (Order R-413, Docket No. TR-940126), § 480-62-085, filed 5/4/94, effective 6/4/94; WSR 90-01-058 (Order R-313, Docket No. U-89-3099-R), § 480-62-085, filed 12/15/89, effective 1/15/90.] Repealed by WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW.
- 480-62-090 Hazardous materials regulations. [Statutory Authority: RCW 34.05.310, 34.05.356, 80.01.040, 80.04.160 and 80.04.160 [81.04.160]. WSR 99-20-013 (Order R-465, Docket No. A-980247), § 480-62-090, filed 9/24/99, effective 10/25/99. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040. WSR 94-11-003 (Order R-413, Docket No. TR-940126), § 480-62-090, filed 5/4/94, effective 6/4/94. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040 and 81.44.065. WSR 82-05-020 (Order R-182, Cause No. TR-1579), § 480-62-090, filed 2/10/82. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.011.040 [80.01.040] and 81.44.065. WSR 81-10-019 (Order R-164, Cause No. TR-1458), § 480-62-090, filed 4/27/81.] Repealed by WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW.
- 480-62-100 Bridge safety rules. [Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 80.01.010 and 81.44.065. WSR 83-09-004 (Order R-201, Cause No. TR-1696), § 480-62-100, filed 4/7/83. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040 and 31.44.065 [81.44.065]. WSR 81-10-018 (Order R-163, Cause No. TR-1457), § 480-62-100, filed 4/27/81.] Repealed by WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW.
- 480-62-120 Train operations—Tacoma. [Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040 and 81.01.010. WSR 83-09-003 (Order R-200, Cause No. TR-1692), § 480-62-120, filed 4/7/83.] Repealed by WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW.
- 480-62-155 Train speeds. [Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-155, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.] Repealed by WSR 07-10-028 (Docket TR-070198, General Order R-542), filed 4/23/07, effective 5/24/07. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 80.04.160, and 34.05.353.

## PART 1: GENERAL AND PROCEDURAL RULES

**WAC 480-62-125 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

**"Class I railroad company"** means a railroad company having annual operating revenues of \$250,000,000 or more;

**"Class II railroad company"** means a railroad company having annual operating revenue of less than \$250,000,000, but more than \$20,000,000; and

**"Class III railroad company"** means a railroad company having annual operating revenues of \$20,000,000 or less.

**"Commission"** means the Washington utilities and transportation commission.

**"Contract crew transportation company"** means any person, organization, company or other entity that operates one or more contract crew transportation vehicles.

**"Contract crew transportation vehicle"** means every motor vehicle designed to transport 15 or fewer passengers, including the driver, that is owned, leased, operated, or maintained by a person contracting with a railroad company or its agents, contractors, subcontractors, vendors, subvendors, secondary vendors, or subcarriers and used primarily to provide railroad crew transportation.

**"Department of labor and industries"** means the Washington state department of labor and industries.

**"Department of transportation"** means the Washington state department of transportation.

**"On track equipment"** means self-propelled equipment, other than locomotives, that can be operated on railroad tracks.

**"Passenger carrying vehicle"** means those buses, vans, trucks, and cars owned, operated, and maintained by a railroad company primarily used to transport railroad employees, other than in the cab of such vehicles, and are designed primarily for operation on roads which may or may not be equipped with retractable flanged wheels for operation on railroad tracks.

**"Railroad"** means every permanent road with a line of rails fixed to ties providing a track for cars or equipment drawn by locomotives or operated by any type of power, including interurban and suburban electric railroads, for the public use of conveying persons or property for hire, with all bridges, ferries, tunnels, equipment, switches, spurs, sidings, tracks, stations, and terminal facilities of every kind, used, operated, controlled, managed, or owned by or in connection therewith. Unless otherwise provided by rule, the term "railroad" does not include logging and industrial railroads, or street railways operating within the limits of any incorporated city or town.

**"Railroad company"** means every corporation, company, partnership, association, joint stock association, or person, their lessees, trustees, or receivers appointed by any court, and any common carrier owning, operating, controlling or managing any railroad or any cars or other equipment used on, or in connection with the railroad within this state.

**"Railroad police officer"** means a peace officer who is commissioned in his or her state of legal residence or state of employment by a railroad company to enforce state laws for the protection of railroad property, personnel, passengers and/or cargo.

**"Remote-control area"** means any place remote-control operations are conducted on a railroad.

**"Remote-control operations"** means control of the movement of locomotives through the use of radio transmitter and receiver systems by persons not physically located at the controls within the confines of a locomotive cab.

**"Remote-control zone"** means a designated restricted access area in which remote-control operations may occur under alternative point protection procedures.

"State" means the state of Washington.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.01.010, 81.04.160, 81.40.015(1), 81.40.025 (4)(a), and chapter 81.40 RCW. WSR 22-24-021 (Docket TR-200536, General Order R-606), § 480-62-125, filed 11/30/22, effective 12/31/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, and 81.61.050. WSR 18-10-001 (Docket TR-170780, General Order R-591), § 480-62-125, filed 4/18/18, effective 5/19/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040 and 80.04.160. WSR 04-11-023 (Docket No. TR-021465, General Order No. R-514), § 480-62-125, filed 5/11/04, effective 6/11/04. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-125, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]

**WAC 480-62-130 Application of this chapter.** The rules in this chapter apply within certain cities and to any railroad company subject to the jurisdiction of the commission under RCW 81.04.010 and chapters 81.04, 81.24, 81.28, 81.36, 81.40, 81.44, 81.48, 81.52, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW, as set forth below:

(1) To all Class I, II, and III railroad companies operating within the state of Washington, with the exceptions noted in subsections (2), (3), and (4) of this section.

(2) To and within first-class cities except for WAC 480-62-145, 480-62-150, and 480-62-225.

(3) To and within cities with a population of more than 400,000 except for WAC 480-62-145, 480-62-150, 480-62-225, 480-62-230, and 480-62-235.

(4) To logging and industrial railroads except for WAC 480-62-200, 480-62-205, 480-62-215, 480-62-240, 480-62-245, 480-62-250, 480-62-300, the portions of WAC 480-62-310 that do not involve grade crossing accidents, WAC 480-62-315 (2), (4) and (5), and WAC 480-62-325.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 80.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.53.010, 81.53.240, and chapter 81.44 RCW. WSR 16-05-032 (Docket TR-151079, General Order R-584), § 480-62-130, filed 2/9/16, effective 3/11/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-130, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]

**WAC 480-62-135 Additional requirements.** (1) These rules do not relieve any railroad company from any of its duties and obligations under the laws of the state of Washington.

(2) The commission retains the authority to impose additional or different requirements on any railroad company in appropriate circumstances, consistent with the requirements of law.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026

(Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-135, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]

**WAC 480-62-140 Exemptions from rules.** (1) The commission may grant an exemption from the provision of any rule in this chapter, when doing so in chapter 480-62 WAC is consistent with the public interest, the purposes underlying regulation, and applicable statutes.

(2) To request a rule exemption, a person must file with the commission a written request identifying the rule for which an exemption is sought, giving a full explanation of the reason the exemption is requested.

(3) The commission will assign the request a docket number, if it does not arise in an existing docket, and will schedule the request for consideration at one of its regularly scheduled open meetings or, if appropriate under chapter 34.05 RCW, in an adjudication. The commission will notify the person requesting the exemption, and other affected persons, of the date of the hearing or open meeting when the commission will consider the request.

(4) In determining whether to grant the request, the commission may consider whether application of the rule would impose undue hardship on the petitioner, of a degree or a kind different from hardships imposed on other similarly situated persons, and whether the effect of applying the rule would be contrary to the purposes of the rule.

(5) The commission will enter an order granting or denying the request or setting it for hearing, pursuant to chapter 480-07 WAC.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040 and 80.04.160. WSR 03-24-028 (General Order R-510, Docket No. A-010648), § 480-62-140, filed 11/24/03, effective 1/1/04. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-140, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]

**WAC 480-62-145 Commission proceedings.** The commission's rules governing administrative practices and procedures are in chapter 480-07 WAC. When a rule in this chapter conflicts with a rule in chapter 480-07 WAC, the rule in this chapter applies.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040 and 80.04.160. WSR 03-24-028 (General Order R-510, Docket No. A-010648), § 480-62-145, filed 11/24/03, effective 1/1/04. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-145, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]

**WAC 480-62-150 Grade crossing petitions.** (1) Whenever a railroad company, city, county, the department of transportation, the parks and recreation commission, or the commission seeks to take any of the following actions at a railroad-highway grade crossing, it must file a petition with the commission seeking approval under RCW 81.53.020 and 81.53.060:

- (a) Opening a railroad-highway crossing at-grade, or by constructing an overcrossing or undercrossing;
  - (b) Closing a railroad-highway crossing;
  - (c) Constructing supplemental safety measures under RCW 81.48.015(1), including, but not limited to, median barriers;
  - (d) Realigning highway or railroad tracks;
  - (e) Widening highways;
  - (f) Constructing multiple tracks; or
  - (g) Changes to crossing surfaces that alter:
    - The dimensions of an existing surface;
    - The angle at which the tracks intersect a highway; or
    - The vertical alignment of a crossing (i.e., to accommodate track superelevation, or changes in railroad or roadway grade).
- (2) Whenever a railroad company, city, county, the department of transportation, the parks and recreation commission, or the commission seeks to take any of the following actions at a railroad-highway grade crossing, it must file a petition with the commission seeking approval under RCW 81.53.261:
- (a) Modifying or upgrading warning signals or devices;
  - (b) Adding a crossing signal;
  - (c) Adding gates to a crossing signal;
  - (d) Modifying or upgrading circuitry for a warning signal; or
  - (e) Installing an intertie between railroad crossing signals and highway traffic signals.
- (3) This rule applies to all railroad companies, including logging and industrial railroads, however, it does not apply to crossings within the limits of first class cities, unless federal funding is used at the crossing.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-150, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]

**WAC 480-62-160 Compliance policy.** (1) The commission encourages voluntary compliance with state statutes, rules, and commission orders through the following:

- (a) A program emphasizing education and technical assistance; and
- (b) A compliance program including inspections and investigation of railroad company operations:
  - (i) For compliance with state statutes, rules, and commission orders;
  - (ii) For compliance with Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) rules through the State Safety Participation Program, 49 C.F.R. Part 212. Information about Title 49 C.F.R. regarding the version adopted and where to obtain it is set out in WAC 480-62-999.

(2) The commission may pursue administrative actions, including, but not limited to, issuing defect notices to railroad companies, reports and recommendations to the FRA, warnings, sanctions, and penalty assessments.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026

(Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-160, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]

**WAC 480-62-165 Severability.** If any provision of this chapter or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the chapter or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-165, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]

**WAC 480-62-170 Resolving disputes about the meaning of these rules.** If the interpretation of any rule in this chapter is questioned by a railroad company, a request for clarification may be filed with the commission.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-170, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]

## **PART 2: SAFETY RULES**

**WAC 480-62-200 Roadway worker safety and operating rules and statutes.** (1) The commission adopts by reference the following parts of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) and all pertinent appendices:

- (a) 49 C.F.R. Part 209: Railroad safety enforcement procedure;
- (b) 49 C.F.R. Part 214: Railroad workplace safety;
- (c) 49 C.F.R. Part 217: Railroad operating rules;
- (d) 49 C.F.R. Part 218: Railroad operating practices;
- (e) 49 C.F.R. Part 219: Procedures for transportation workplace drug testing programs;
- (f) 49 C.F.R. Part 220: Radio standards and procedures;
- (g) 49 C.F.R. Part 221: Rear end marking device - Passenger, commuter and freight trains;
- (h) 49 C.F.R. Part 225: Railroad Accidents/Incidents: Reports classification, and investigations;
- (i) 49 C.F.R. Part 228: Hours of service of railroad employees;
- (j) 49 C.F.R. Part 239: Passenger train emergency preparedness;
- (k) 49 C.F.R. Part 240: Qualification and Certification of Locomotive Engineers Hours of Service;

(1) 49 C.F.R. Part 211: Hours of Service.

(2) Information about Title 49 C.F.R. regarding the version adopted and where to obtain it is set out in WAC 480-62-999.

(3) All violations of the above incorporated rules and statutes will be submitted to the Federal Railroad Administration for enforcement action pursuant to the State Safety Participation Program, 49 C.F.R. Part 212.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 80.04.160, 81.04.160, and 34.05.353. WSR 12-05-063 (Docket A-111722, General Order R-564), § 480-62-200, filed 2/15/12, effective 3/17/12. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-200, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]

**WAC 480-62-205 Track safety standards.** (1) Rules governing track safety standards are prescribed by the United States Department of Transportation in Title 49, Part 213, of the Code of Federal Regulations, along with appendices. Information about Title 49 C.F.R. regarding the version adopted and where to obtain it is set out in WAC 480-62-999.

(2) All violations of the above incorporated rules will be submitted to the Federal Railroad Administration for enforcement action pursuant to the State Safety Participation Program, 49 C.F.R. Part 212.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-205, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]

**WAC 480-62-210 Crossing signal circuitry.** (1) Rules governing grade crossing signal system safety are prescribed by the United States Department of Transportation in Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 234 along with appendices. Information about Title 49 C.F.R. regarding the version adopted and where to obtain it is set out in WAC 480-62-999.

(2) All violations of the above incorporated rules will be submitted to the Federal Railroad Administration for enforcement action pursuant to the State Safety Participation Program, 49 C.F.R. Part 212.

(3) Violations involving all railroad companies not subject to the jurisdiction of the Federal Railroad Administration will be enforced pursuant to WAC 480-62-160, Compliance policy.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-210, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]

**WAC 480-62-215 Hazardous materials regulations.** (1) Rules governing hazardous materials are prescribed by the United States Department of Transportation in Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 171 through 174, and Parts 178 and 179, and the appendices to Title 49. Information about Title 49 C.F.R. regarding the version adopted and where to obtain it is set out in WAC 480-62-999.

(2) All violations of the above incorporated rules and statutes will be submitted to the Federal Railroad Administration for enforce-



ment action pursuant to the State Safety Participation Program, 49 C.F.R. Part 212.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-215, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]

**WAC 480-62-220 Blockage of public grade crossings.** (1) Railroad companies must not block a grade crossing for more than ten consecutive minutes, if reasonably possible.

(2) A blocked grade crossing must be cleared immediately by the fastest available method, if the train movement will not violate rules issued by the Federal Railroad Administration, upon the request of law enforcement or other emergency services personnel, or when the engineer becomes aware that the crossing is being approached by a law enforcement or other emergency services vehicle with its emergency lights flashing or that such a vehicle is stopped with its emergency lights flashing at the crossing blocked by the train.

(3) A grade crossing is "blocked" if any part of a stopped train occupies the crossing or causes warning devices to be activated.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-220, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]

**WAC 480-62-225 Crossing surfaces. (1) Areas of responsibility.**

(a) Highway authorities must maintain and keep in repair the surfaces and the subgrades of the roadway approaches up to one foot from the outside of either rail at a grade crossing with one track. At crossings involving more than one track, the highway authority must maintain and keep in repair the roadway approaches up to one foot from the outside of each of the two outside rails.

(b) At a grade crossing with one track, railroad companies must maintain and keep in repair the crossing surfaces between the rails and for a distance of one foot on the outside of either rail. At crossings involving more than one track, railroad companies must maintain and keep in repair the crossing surfaces and the roadway for the entire area between the outermost rails at the crossing, and for a distance of one foot outside of the two outermost rails.

(c) If tracks at a crossing involving more than one track are owned by different railroad companies, each company must maintain and keep in repair the crossing surfaces and roadway within its right of way that is within the area specified in (b) of this subsection.

**(2) Crossing surfaces.**

(a) Crossing surfaces include shoulders and pedestrian walkways immediately adjacent to a roadway or shoulder. If reasonably possible, roadways and adjacent shoulders and pedestrian walkways must be continued through a crossing without narrowing the roadway, shoulder or walkway.

(b) The subgrade to a crossing surface must be maintained in a manner which minimizes damage to the crossing surface, taking into ac-

count the effects of topography, water tables, weather, and the types of vehicular traffic generally using the crossing.

(3) **Roadways.**

(a) Roadways between tracks at crossings involving more than one set of tracks, including the roadway subgrade, must be of the same quality as the roadway approaches to the crossing unless the highway authority and the railroad company agree to a higher quality.

(b) Roadway approaches must be constructed and maintained so that the transition between the roadway and crossing surface is on the same plane and smooth.

(c) At grade crossings where track superelevation exists, roadway approaches must be constructed and maintained so that the transition between the roadway and crossing surface is as smooth as practicable.

(4) **Standards for surface maintenance and repair.** Crossing surfaces must be convenient and safe for passage. Some factors in determining compliance with this general standard are:

(a) Whether crossing surfaces and the adjacent roadways are level with the top of the rails on the plane created by each set of tracks.

(b) Whether crossing surfaces are broken or loose.

(c) The existence of potholes.

(d) The existence of curled or rolled asphalt.

(e) Whether traffic generally slows to traverse the crossing.

(f) Citizen complaints.

(5) **Notice.** Notice requirements for highway authorities and railroad companies when performing maintenance on a crossing surface are located in WAC 480-62-305 (4) and (5).

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-225, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]

**WAC 480-62-230 Traffic control devices.** (1) Whenever a railroad company performs any construction, maintenance or repairs at a grade crossing or grade separated crossing, the company must install and maintain traffic control devices adequate to protect the public and railroad employees as prescribed in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), Part 8, Traffic Control for Railroad and Light Rail Transit Grade Crossings, as published by the United States Department of Transportation. In addition, railroads must maintain all crossings with proper traffic control devices as prescribed in the MUTCD, Part 8. The commission adopts, by reference, the MUTCD, Part 8, as described in WAC 480-62-999. Flaggers must also be provided where necessary to adequately protect the public and railroad employees.

(2) Any traffic control device must be used only as long as the device is needed or applicable. Any device that is no longer needed or applicable must be immediately removed or inactivated so as to prevent confusion.

(3) All barricades, signs, and similar devices must be constructed and installed in a workmanlike manner.

(4) Bushes, weeds, or any other material or object must not be allowed to obscure any traffic control devices.

(5) All signs, barricades, and other control devices intended for use during hours of darkness must be adequately illuminated or reflectorized, with precautions taken to protect motorists from glare.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 80.04.160, 81.04.160, and 34.05.353. WSR 11-04-041 (Docket A-101466, General Order R-562), § 480-62-230, filed 1/25/11, effective 2/25/11. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-230, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]

**WAC 480-62-235 Flaggers.** (1) The rules in this section apply whenever a railroad company engages in the maintenance, repair, or construction of a grade crossing or grade separated crossing; however, they do not apply when flaggers are provided only because of a crossing signal malfunction or only because of inspections or repairs to a crossing signal system. The latter circumstances are covered by 49 C.F.R., Part 234. In addition, 49 C.F.R. Part 234.5 recommends that railroad companies follow the requirements of Part VI of the Federal Highway Administration's Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) to the extent possible. The commission further recommends that railroads also abide by the following rules to the extent possible in situations covered by 49 C.F.R. Part 234.

(2) Except as otherwise required in this section, traffic control devices, signs, barricades, and signaling methods must be set up in accordance with the provisions of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). The commission adopts, by reference, specific portions of the MUTCD, as follows:

- (a) Chapter 8A.13, Temporary Traffic Control Zones;
- (b) Chapter 6A.01, General;
- (c) Chapter 6A.02, Fundamental Principles of Temporary Traffic Control;
- (d) Chapter 6C, Pedestrian and Worker Safety;
- (e) Chapter 6D, Flagger Control;
- (f) Chapter 6N.17, Work in the Vicinity of a Grade Crossing.

(3) Flaggers are to be used only when other reasonable means of control will not adequately control traffic in work zones. It may be reasonable in some cases to close the road on which the crossing is located, but only if agreed to by the public authority responsible for the roadway.

(4) Standards for high-visibility safety apparel.

(a) While flagging during daylight hours, a flagger must, at a minimum, wear:

- A high-visibility safety garment designed according to Class 2 specifications in ANSI/ISEA 207-2020, American National Standard for High-Visibility Public Safety Vests; and
- A high-visibility hard hat.

(b) While flagging at night, a flagger must, at a minimum, wear:

- A high-visibility safety garment designed according to Class 2 specifications in ANSI/ISEA 207-2020 over white coveralls, or other coveralls or trousers designed according to ANSI/ISEA 207-2020 standards; and
- A high-visibility hard hat.

(c) While flagging during inclement weather, yellow rain gear, white rain gear, or rain gear designed according to ANSI/ISEA 207-2020 may be substituted for white coveralls.

(5) Railroad companies must develop and use a method to ensure that whenever there is any potential hazard associated with motor ve-

hicles, construction equipment, or on-track equipment, that flaggers have adequate warning of objects approaching from behind the flagger.

Note: The following are some nonmandatory examples of methods that may be used to adequately warn flaggers:

- Mount a mirror on the flagger's hard hat;
- Use a motion detector with audible warning; or
- Use a spotter.

(6) (a) Railroad companies must conduct an on-site safety briefing for flaggers each time a flagger reports for duty, and also when job site conditions change significantly. The briefing must include applicable portions of the traffic control plan and any changes applicable during the flagger's shift. If not covered in the traffic control plan, the briefing must also include:

- The flagger's role and location at the job site;
- Motor vehicles and equipment in operation at the site;
- Job site traffic patterns;
- Communications and signals to be used between flaggers and equipment operators;
- Expected train and other on-track equipment movements;
- On-foot escape route; and
- Other hazards specific to the job site.

(b) When flaggers are used on a job site at a roadway allowing speeds of 45 mph or more and the job will last more than one day, the railroad company must keep on the site a current site-specific traffic control plan. The purpose of this plan is to help move traffic through or around the construction zone in a way that protects the safety of the traveling public, pedestrians and workers. The plan must include, but is not limited to, such items as:

- Sign use and placement;
- Application and removal of pavement markings;
- Construction;
- Scheduling;
- Methods and devices for delineation and channelization;
- Placement and maintenance of devices;
- Placement of flaggers;
- Roadway lighting;
- Traffic regulations; and
- Surveillance and inspection.

(7) (a) Where flaggers are used on roads allowing speeds of at least 45 mph, the railroad company must provide an additional warning sign marked "BE PREPARED TO STOP."

(b) This sign is in addition to those required by Part VI of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. It should be placed between the last two warning signs in the series or on the opposite side of the road when used on undivided roads.

(c) This additional sign does not increase the required advance warning area.

(d) The purpose of this additional sign is to clearly point out that a flagger will be encountered and the driver should be prepared to stop.

(8) To protect flaggers, railroad companies must ensure that:

(a) Flagger workstations are illuminated at night and during inclement weather by floodlights. It is important to adequately illuminate the workstation without creating glare in the eyes of approaching drivers. The adequacy and proper placement of floodlights can best be determined by driving through and observing the workstation from each direction on the roadway.

(b) Warning signs reflect the actual condition of the work zone. When not in use, warning signs should either be taken down or covered.

(c) Flaggers are not assigned other duties while engaging in flagging activities.

(d) Flaggers do not use devices (e.g., cell phones, pagers, or radio headphones) that may distract the vision, hearing, or attention of the flagger. Devices such as two-way radios used for communication between flaggers to direct traffic or ensure flagger safety are acceptable.

(e) Flaggers receive appropriate breaks from flagging so they can remain attentive and alert.

(9) Unless an emergency makes it impossible, before performing any work, railroad companies must coordinate all repair, maintenance, and construction work with the governing authority responsible for the road on which the crossing exists.

(10) Information about Title 49 C.F.R., the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, and ANSI/ISEA 207-2020 regarding the versions adopted and where to obtain them is set out in WAC 480-62-999.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.10.040 [80.01.040], 80.04.160, 81.04.160, and 34.05.353. WSR 24-13-092, § 480-62-235, filed 6/18/24, effective 7/19/24; WSR 11-04-041 (Docket A-101466, General Order R-562), § 480-62-235, filed 1/25/11, effective 2/25/11; WSR 10-03-044 (Docket A-091124, General Order R-557), § 480-62-235, filed 1/14/10, effective 2/14/10. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-235, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]

**WAC 480-62-240 Railroad owned or operated passenger carrying vehicles—Equipment.** (1) Equipment requirements for all vehicles.

(a) Vehicles must comply with all applicable equipment requirements of Title 46 RCW.

(b) Vehicles must have exhaust systems that prevent exposure of passengers to the vehicle's emissions.

(c) Vehicles must have two external rear vision mirrors, one at each side of the cab. The mirrors must be firmly attached to the motor vehicle at a point where the driver is provided a view of the highway to the rear along both sides of the vehicle. An outside mirror may be placed only on the driver's side on vehicles in which the driver has a view to the rear by means of an interior mirror.

(d) Vehicles must be equipped with a steering system maintained to ensure that lash or preplay do not exceed those values set forth in 49 C.F.R., Parts 570.7 and 570.60 (Vehicle in Use Inspection Standards). Information about Title 49 C.F.R. regarding the version adopted and where to obtain it is set out in WAC 480-62-999.

(e) Vehicles must have a heating system that will maintain an ambient temperature of at least fifty-five degrees in passenger areas.

(f) Vehicles must have at least three red-burning fuses, three red portable emergency reflectors, or at least two red cloth flags suitable for warning the motoring public in an emergency. The driver must ensure that such equipment is in the vehicle and is maintained in good condition. Any devices that may create a spark or open flame must

be carried in a separate compartment or a closed metal container provided for that purpose.

(g) Prior to operating a vehicle, the driver must determine whether such equipment is in the vehicle and is maintained in good condition.

(h) Any devices that may create a spark or open flame must be carried in a separate compartment or a closed metal container provided for that purpose.

(i) Vehicles must have a two and one-half pound dry chemical fire extinguisher or its equivalent, properly filled and located where it is readily accessible for use. The extinguisher must allow visual determination of the state of its charge at all times. The extinguishing agent must be nontoxic and noncorrosive. The fire extinguisher must be suitable for attachment to the motor vehicle, bear the label of approval by the Underwriters Laboratories, Inc., and be kept in good working condition at all times.

(j) Vehicles must have a first-aid kit located where it is readily accessible. The kit must contain all of the items specified in ANSI Z308.1-2009, Minimum Requirements for Workplace First Aid Kits. Additionally, the kit must contain gloves capable of preventing exposure to bloodborne pathogens. Items used from first-aid kits must be replaced before the next shift, and kits must be checked for compliance with this rule if the seal on the kit is broken. Information about ANSI Z308.1-2009 regarding the version adopted and where to obtain it is set out in WAC 480-62-999.

(2) Equipment requirements for specified vehicles.

(a) Coupling devices used on a vehicle equipped with retractable flange wheels for operation on railroad tracks must be substantial and made of metal. The devices must be equipped with safety chains or straps of sufficient strength to prevent separation in the event of accidental uncoupling.

(b) A passenger compartment separate from the cab of the vehicle must be made of metal and be fastened directly to the frame of the vehicle. The compartment must have an interior lining sufficient to absorb condensation, and padded seats and backrests firmly secured in place. The floor of the compartment must be constructed to bear the weight of all cargo and passengers. The floor must not have unnecessary openings, and it must be constructed to prevent the entry of noxious fumes or permeation with flammable materials. The compartment must have a curtain of nonpermeable material of sufficient weight and size to close off the rear opening and a tailgate that must be closed whenever the vehicle is in motion. If the bottom of the entrance to the passenger compartment is more than three feet six inches above ground level, the vehicle must have permanent or temporary steps designed for the safe boarding and discharge of passengers.

(c) Communication between a cab and a separated passenger compartment must be provided by means of a light or audible device mounted in the cab of the vehicle that may be activated by a passenger in the rear compartment.

(d) On vehicles designed to transport nine or more passengers, an emergency exit must be placed at the end of the vehicle opposite the regular entrance. The exit must be at least six and one-half square feet in area, and the smallest dimension must be at least eighteen inches. The route to and from the emergency exit must be unobstructed at all times.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, and 81.61.050. WSR 18-10-001 (Docket TR-170780, General Order R-591), § 480-62-240, filed 4/18/18, effective 5/19/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 80.04.160, 81.04.160, and 34.05.353. WSR 10-03-044 (Docket A-091124, General Order R-557), § 480-62-240, filed 1/14/10, effective 2/14/10; WSR 02-18-033 (Docket No. A-020379, General Order No. R-501), § 480-62-240, filed 8/26/02, effective 9/26/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-240, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]

**WAC 480-62-245 Railroad owned or operated passenger carrying vehicles—Operation. (1) General.**

(a) All passenger carrying motor vehicles must be operated in compliance with state law no matter where the vehicle is operated.

(b) Drivers must operate vehicles in a careful and prudent manner and at reasonable and proper speeds, with due regard to circumstances and to the use of highways by others.

**(2) Minimum age, skill, and physical condition of drivers.**

(a) Drivers of passenger carrying vehicles must be at least 18 years old.

(b) Before being allowed to drive or operate a passenger carrying vehicle, drivers must have demonstrated the physical capability of handling the controls of the vehicle with ease.

(c) Before driving a vehicle, drivers or operators must obtain either a valid Washington state driver's license or a valid license from the state of the driver's residence. The driver must carry the license at all times while operating a vehicle. If the passenger carrying vehicle is a type for which the state of Washington requires an extraordinary license or endorsement, the driver must have such license or endorsement.

(3) **Driver's daily hours of service.** No driver of any passenger carrying vehicle may drive for more than 10 hours without resting afterward for a minimum of eight consecutive hours.

(4) **Refueling.** No driver or any employee of a railroad company operating within the state may:

(a) Fuel a passenger carrying vehicle with the engine running;

(b) Smoke or expose any flame in the vicinity of a vehicle being fueled;

(c) Fuel a passenger carrying vehicle unless the nozzle of the fuel hose is continuously in contact with the intake pipe of the fuel tank;

(d) Insofar as practicable, permit any other person to engage in activities that might result in a fire or explosion;

(e) Except on buses, all occupants of the vehicle, except the driver and those within the operating cab, must dismount and stand clear while the vehicle is being refueled.

**(5) Driving rules.**

(a) Drivers must bring vehicles to a complete stop not less than 15 feet from the nearest rail of any at-grade crossing before crossing the track except:

(i) Where traffic is controlled by a police officer or a duly authorized flagger;

(ii) Where traffic is regulated by a traffic control signal;

(iii) Where traffic is controlled by crossing gate arms or an alternately flashing light signal intended to give warning of the approach of a train; or

(iv) Where an official traffic control device as designated by the commission pursuant to RCW 81.53.060 (i.e., an "EXEMPT" sign, specified as R15-3P by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices) gives notice that the stopping requirement imposed by this section does not apply. Information about the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices regarding the version adopted and where to obtain it is set out in WAC 480-62-999.

(b) Drivers must not change gears while crossing any railroad tracks.

(c) No driver may consume alcohol or ingest any controlled substance while on duty, or drive while affected by the use of intoxicating liquor or other substance that might impair the ability to drive.

(d) No driver may proceed down a grade with the gears in neutral or the clutch disengaged.

(e) At the beginning of his or her use of a vehicle, the driver must perform a brake test immediately before, and immediately after, the vehicle begins moving to ensure that the brakes are functioning properly.

**(6) Loading and carrying of passengers.**

(a) Drivers are in charge of the vehicle and must require passengers to observe vehicle rules.

(b) Passengers may not enter or exit from the vehicle while it is in motion, or ride on running boards, fenders, bumpers, tops of cabs, or with any part of their body projecting beyond the sides or the ends of the vehicle.

**(7) Carrying equipment or tools.**

(a) When equipment or tools are carried inside the vehicle, they must be stored in enclosed racks or boxes that are secured to the vehicle in a manner that prevents employees from being struck in the event of sudden starts, stops, or turns.

(b) All tools and equipment, including cylinders, containers, or drums must be properly secured so they will not interfere with the use of any exit.

(c) The driver must ensure that equipment and tools are properly secured before moving the vehicle.

**(8) Limitation on transportation of explosives, gasoline, and other hazardous materials on passenger carrying vehicles.**

(a) Explosives other than track torpedoes and fusees may not be carried in or on any vehicle while the vehicle is being used to transport crew members in a passenger compartment.

(b) If track torpedoes or fusees are carried in a passenger carrying vehicle, they must be carried in a separate compartment or container provided for that purpose.

(c) Gasoline, or other hazardous materials, must not be carried in either the cab or in the passenger compartment; however, oxygen or acetylene cylinders may be carried if gauges and regulators have been removed with caps in place before loading.

(d) Passenger carrying vehicles may be used to carry flammable materials when they are located outside of and isolated from the passenger carrying area, and are stored in containers approved by the Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. Containers for fuel must be vented in a manner that prevents the hazardous concentration of fumes.



(e) A passenger carrying vehicle containing hazardous materials must not be parked within 300 feet of an open fire.

(f) Smoking is prohibited within 50 feet of a vehicle carrying explosive or flammable materials.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.10.040 [80.01.040], 80.04.160, 81.04.160, and 34.05.353. WSR 24-13-092, § 480-62-245, filed 6/18/24, effective 7/19/24; WSR 18-10-001 (Docket TR-170780, General Order R-591), § 480-62-245, filed 4/18/18, effective 5/19/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-245, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]

**WAC 480-62-250 On-track equipment.** (1) When approaching and passing over a railroad-highway grade crossing, operators of motor track cars, speeders, or other on track equipment must remain in complete control of the equipment, be prepared to stop for vehicular or pedestrian traffic on the highway, stop if necessary to avoid an accident, and provide effective warning for vehicular or pedestrian traffic at the crossing.

(2) Railroad companies that allow persons other than railroad personnel on official railroad business to operate motor track cars, speeders, or other on track equipment on their track must ensure that the operators comply with subsection (1) of this section.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-250, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]

**WAC 480-62-255 Minimum crew size on certain trains.** (1) For the purpose of this section, unless the language or context indicates that a different meaning is clearly intended, the following definitions apply:

"Class I" means a railroad carrier designated as a class I railroad by the United States surface transportation board and its subsidiaries or is owned and operated by entities whose combined total railroad operational ownership and controlling interest meets the United States surface transportation board designation as a class I railroad carrier.

"Class III" means a railroad carrier designated as a class III railroad by the United States surface transportation board.

"Crewmember" has the same meaning as "operating craft employee" as defined in this section.

"Operating craft employee" means a person employed by a railroad carrier and identified as train or yard crew as defined in 49 C.F.R. Part 218.5.

"Other railroad carrier" means a railroad carrier that is not a class I carrier.

"Railroad carrier" means a carrier of persons or property upon vehicles, other than streetcars, operated upon stationary rails, the route of which is principally outside incorporated cities and towns.

"Railroad carrier" includes any officers and agents of the railroad carrier.

(2) Any person, corporation, company, or officer of the court operating any railroad, railway, or any part of any railroad or railway, in the state as a common carrier of freight or passengers shall operate and manage all trains and switching assignments over its road with no less than two crewmembers.

(3) The minimum crew size requirement of subsection (2) of this section does not apply to:

(a) Class III railroad carriers operating on their roads while at a speed of 25 miles per hour or less; or

(b) Other railroad carriers in possession of an effective automatic waiver issued under subsection (4) of this section.

(4) Other railroad carriers operating in the state on or after June 11, 2020, receive an automatic waiver of the minimum train crew size requirements of subsection (2) of this section that shall remain in effect until the commission terminates the effectiveness of such a waiver by order.

(5) The commission may order railroad carriers to increase the number of railroad employees, to require additional crewmembers, or direct the placement of additional crewmembers if the commission determines that the increase is necessary to protect the safety, health, and welfare of the public, passengers, or railroad employees, to prevent harm to the environment or to address site specific safety or security hazards. In issuing any order to increase the number of railroad employees, the commission may consider, but is not limited to, the factors found in RCW 81.40.025 (4) (b).

(6) Any railroad carrier in violation of this section may be subject to fines of not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each offense, as determined by the commission through order. In the event of a serious injury or fatality the commission may impose fines exceeding \$100,000 per offense.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.01.010, 81.04.160, 81.40.015(1), 81.40.025 (4) (a), and chapter 81.40 RCW. WSR 22-24-021 (Docket TR-200536, General Order R-606), § 480-62-255, filed 11/30/22, effective 12/31/22.]

**WAC 480-62-260 First-class cities opt-in.** (1) Participation in the commission's rail safety program. RCW 81.53.240 allows a first-class city to request participation in the commission's crossing safety inspection program. For the purposes of this section, the commission's crossing safety inspection program shall mean the inspection of grade crossings to ensure proper design and maintenance, as set forth in WAC 480-62-225. For the purposes of this section participation in the crossing safety inspection program shall not include the crossing petition process outlined in RCW 81.53.030 and 81.53.060.

(2) Process for opt-in. A first-class city must notify the commission of its intent to opt-in to the commission's rail safety program at least sixty days prior to the effective date requested by the city. A first-class city's request to opt-in must be accompanied by documentation demonstrating that the city's governing body has approved the terms and conditions set forth in a memorandum of understanding between the city and the commission governing the commission's assumption of rail crossing safety inspection authority within the city limits. A first-class city's request to opt-in will become

effective on the date requested by the city or the first day of the month following commission approval of the memorandum of understanding referenced in this section, whichever occurs later.

(3) Technical assistance to first-class cities. For first-class cities that opt-in to the commission's crossing safety inspection program, the commission will provide technical assistance on grade crossing safety, maintenance, and modifications as agreed between the city and the commission.

(4) Process to opt-out. First-class cities that opt-in to the commission's crossing safety inspection program may opt-out of the program by submitting to the commission documentation that the city's governing body has approved the withdrawal of the city from the commission's crossing safety inspection program. A city's notice of withdrawal must be submitted to the commission at least ninety days prior to the date upon which the city intends to assume all rail crossing safety inspections within its jurisdiction.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 80.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.53.010, 81.53.240, and chapter 81.44 RCW. WSR 16-05-032 (Docket TR-151079, General Order R-584), § 480-62-260, filed 2/9/16, effective 3/11/16.]

**WAC 480-62-270 Safety standards at private crossings.** (1) For the purposes of this section, the term "private crossings" has the same meaning as in RCW 81.53.010(8).

(2) At every private crossing through which any amount of crude oil is transported, the railroad must ensure that the following are installed on each side of the crossing within one hundred twenty days after this rule becomes effective:

(a) A thirty-inch or larger R1-1 stop sign, defined as a standard R1-1 in the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*;

(b) An emergency notification system (ENS) sign that:

(i) Displays the necessary information for the dispatching railroad to receive reports of unsafe conditions at the crossing including, at a minimum:

(A) The toll-free telephone number of the railroad company established to receive reports;

(B) An explanation of the purpose of the sign (e.g., "Report emergency or problem to \_\_\_"); and

(C) The United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) National Crossing Inventory number assigned to that crossing.

(ii) Measures at least twelve inches wide by nine inches high;

(iii) Is retroreflective;

(iv) Has legible text (i.e., letters and numerals) with a minimum character height of one inch; and

(v) Has white text set on a blue background with a white border, except that the USDOT National Crossing Inventory number may be black text set on a white rectangular background.

(c) A rectangular sign, at least three hundred square inches (twenty thousand square centimeters) in size, with the legend "Private Crossing" and the crossbuck symbol.

(3) All signs must have retroreflective tape applied to the sign posts.

(4) If the commission finds, after investigation, that a restricted sight distance, unfavorable roadway or crossing configuration, or other hazard exists at a private crossing, the commission will notify the railroad and to the extent the commission has contact information,

the landowner. The railroad must ensure that additional safety measures are installed at the crossing including, but not necessarily limited to, signs authorized in the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*, within one hundred twenty days of receiving notification of the hazard from commission staff.

(5) At private crossings where crude oil is transported, the commission will conduct inspections giving priority to private crossings with a high frequency of oil trains, in industrial areas, and high population centers.

(6) Nothing in this section modifies existing agreements between the railroad company and the landowner governing liability or cost allocation at the private crossing.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 80.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.53.010, 81.53.240, and chapter 81.44 RCW. WSR 16-05-032 (Docket TR-151079, General Order R-584), § 480-62-270, filed 2/9/16, effective 3/11/16.]

**WAC 480-62-275 Contract crew transportation registration and permit required.**

(1) A person must register with, and receive a permit from, the commission before operating as a contract crew transportation company in the state of Washington.

(2) The company name is the name of the permit holder.

(a) A company electing to conduct operations under a trade name must first register the trade name with the commission.

(b) A company must conduct all operations under the company name, a registered trade name, or both.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, and 81.61.050. WSR 18-10-001 (Docket TR-170780, General Order R-591), § 480-62-275, filed 4/18/18, effective 5/19/18.]

**WAC 480-62-278 Contract crew transportation vehicle and driver safety requirements.**

(1) Every contract crew transportation company must operate its vehicles in compliance with state law, no matter where the vehicle is operated. Drivers must operate vehicles in a careful and prudent manner, at reasonable and proper speeds, with due regard to circumstances or conditions at the time of operation.

(2) Companies must comply with the parts of 49 C.F.R. adopted by reference that are shown in the chart in subsection (4) of this section. Information about 49 C.F.R. including the version adopted by the commission and where to obtain copies is set out in WAC 480-62-999.

(3) The commission will place out-of-service any motor vehicle having safety defects identified in the *North American Uniform Out-Of-Service Criteria*. Information about the *North American Uniform Out-Of-Service Criteria* including the version adopted and where to obtain copies is set out in WAC 480-62-999. A company must not operate any vehicle placed out-of-service until proper repairs have been completed.

(4) The commission will place out-of-service any driver meeting criteria identified in the *North American Uniform Out-Of-Service Criteria*. A company must not allow a driver who has been placed out-of-service to operate a motor vehicle until the conditions causing the driver to be placed out-of-service have been corrected.

<b>49 C.F.R. Part:</b>		<b>Notes:</b>
Part 379 -	Preservation of Records	Entire Part 379 is adopted and applies to Washington intrastate operations.
Part 385 -	Safety Fitness Procedures	Entire Part 385 is adopted and applies to Washington intrastate operations.
Part 390 -	Safety Regulations, General	Entire Part 390 is adopted and applies to Washington intrastate operations, with the following exceptions:
		(1) The terms "motor vehicle," "commercial motor vehicle," and "private vehicle" are not adopted. Instead, where those terms are used in Title 49 C.F.R., they have the meanings assigned to "contract crew transportation vehicle" in WAC 480-62-125 (Definitions).
		(2) Whenever the term "director" is used in Title 49 C.F.R., it means the commission.
Part 391 -	Qualification of Drivers	Entire Part 391 is adopted, with the following exceptions:
		(1) Part 391.49 (alternative physical qualification standards for the loss or impairment of limbs) is not adopted for drivers who operate vehicles exclusively in intrastate commerce. Instead refer to WAC 480-62-281 for intrastate medical waivers.
Part 392 -	Driving of Motor Vehicles	Entire Part 392 is adopted and applies to Washington intrastate operations.
Part 393 -	Parts and Accessories Necessary for Safe Operation	Entire Part 393 is adopted and applies to Washington intrastate operations.
Part 395 -	Hours of Service of Drivers	Entire Part 395 is adopted and applies to Washington intrastate operations.
Part 396 -	Inspection, Repair, and Maintenance	Entire Part 396 is adopted and applies to Washington intrastate operations.
Part 397 -	Transportation of Hazardous Materials, Driving and Parking Rules	Entire Part 397 is adopted and applies to Washington intrastate operations.

(5) Companies operating a contract crew transportation vehicle must:

(a) Comply with all state and local laws and rules governing licensing, vehicle safety, and driver safety.

(b) Maintain all motor vehicles in a safe and sanitary condition.

(c) Ensure that vehicles are free of defects likely to result in an accident or breakdown.

(6) Persons who drive for companies operating a contract crew transportation vehicle must be immediately and automatically disqualified from operating a contract crew transportation vehicle for a period of three years if:

(a) The person is convicted of, or is found to have committed, two or more traffic violations that result in suspension or revocation of the person's driver's license within a three-year period for a reason other than failure to pay fines.

(b) The person is convicted of, or is found to have committed, any of the following offenses:

(i) Any drug or alcohol-related traffic offense.

(ii) Using a vehicle to commit a felony.

(iii) Leaving the scene of an accident.

(iv) Prohibited passing of another vehicle.

(v) A railroad-highway grade crossing offense identified in RCW 46.25.090(8).

(vi) Driving with a suspended, revoked, or canceled license.

(7) Persons who drive for companies operating a contract crew transportation vehicle that sustain a conviction or traffic violation

as outlined in subsection (5) of this section, must report the conviction or infraction to the company within ten days of the date of the conviction or infraction.

(8) No company operating a contract crew transportation vehicle, its agents, officers, or employees, will allow any article, commodity, or substance to be loaded in or on any vehicle used by the company to transport passengers that is:

(a) Dangerous to the lives and safety of passengers.

(b) Prohibited by the hazardous materials rules in Title 49 C.F.R. from being transported on passenger-carrying vehicles.

(9) No company operating a contract crew transportation vehicle may carry more passengers than the vehicle was originally manufactured to carry.

(10) All vehicles operated under the provisions of this chapter are at all times subject to inspection by the commission or its duly authorized representatives.

(11) All contract crew transportation companies must implement a controlled substance and alcohol testing program to include:

(a) Preemployment testing: A preemployment controlled substance and alcohol test must be administered prior to a driver performing a safety-sensitive function.

(b) Postaccident testing.

(i) An alcohol test must be administered as soon as practicable but no longer than eight hours following an accident where the accident involved the loss of human life, a driver receives a citation for a moving traffic violation arising from the accident if the accident involved bodily injury to any person who, as a result of the injury immediately receives medical treatment away from the scene of the accident or one or more motor vehicles incurring disabling damage as a result of the accident, requiring the motor vehicle to be transported away from the scene by a tow truck or other motor vehicle.

(ii) A controlled substance test must be administered within thirty-two hours following an accident where the accident involved the loss of human life, a driver receives a citation for a moving traffic violation arising from the accident if the accident involved bodily injury to any person who, as a result of the injury immediately receives medical treatment away from the scene of the accident or one or more motor vehicles incurring disabling damage as a result of the accident, requiring the motor vehicle to be transported away from the scene by a tow truck or other motor vehicle.

(c) Random testing.

(i) Every driver shall submit to random alcohol and controlled substance testing.

(ii) The minimum annual percentage rate for random alcohol testing shall be ten percent of the average number of driver positions.

(iii) The minimum annual percentage rate for random controlled substances testing shall be twenty-five percent of the average number of driver positions.

(d) Reasonable suspicion testing.

(i) All persons designated to supervise drivers shall receive at least sixty minutes of training on alcohol misuse and receive at least an additional sixty minutes of training on controlled substances use.

(ii) The training will be used by supervisors to determine whether reasonable suspicion exists to require a driver to undergo testing. The training shall include the physical, behavioral, speech, and performance indicators of probable alcohol misuse and use of controlled substances.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, and 81.61.050. WSR 18-10-001 (Docket TR-170780, General Order R-591), § 480-62-278, filed 4/18/18, effective 5/19/18.]

**WAC 480-62-281 Contract crew transportation intrastate medical waivers.** (1) **Department of licensing intrastate medical waiver.** A contract crew transportation company may use a driver that is not physically qualified to drive a commercial motor vehicle under 49 C.F.R. Part 391.41, if the driver:

(a) Only operates motor vehicles intrastate, wholly within the state of Washington; and

(b) Has obtained from the Washington state department of licensing an intrastate medical waiver to drive a commercial motor vehicle.

For the purposes of a department of licensing medical waiver, a commercial motor vehicle means a motor vehicle:

(i) With a gross vehicle weight rating over 26,000 lbs.;

(ii) Transporting sixteen or more passengers, including the driver; or

(iii) With a manufacturer's seating capacity of sixteen or more passengers, including the driver.

(2) **Doctor's statement of intrastate medical waiver.** A contract crew transportation company may use a driver that is not physically qualified to drive a commercial motor vehicle under 49 C.F.R. Part 391.41, if the driver:

(a) Holds a valid Washington state driver's license;

(b) Has received a doctor's statement that:

(i) The driver's medical condition is not likely to interfere with the driver's ability to safely operate a commercial motor vehicle; and

(ii) The doctor's opinion is that the driver's condition is likely to remain stable for the two years that the medical certificate is valid.

(c) Operates commercial motor vehicles intrastate wholly within the state of Washington. For the purposes of a doctor's statement of intrastate medical waiver, a commercial motor vehicle means a motor vehicle:

(i) With a gross vehicle weight rating under 26,001 lbs.;

(ii) Transporting fifteen or fewer passengers, including the driver; or

(iii) With a manufacturer's seating capacity of fifteen or fewer passengers, including the driver.

(3) **Driver qualification files.** A contract crew transportation company that uses a driver under an intrastate medical waiver must maintain in the driver's qualification file a copy of the doctor's statement of intrastate medical waiver.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, and 81.61.050. WSR 18-10-001 (Docket TR-170780, General Order R-591), § 480-62-281, filed 4/18/18, effective 5/19/18.]

**WAC 480-62-284 Contract crew transportation insurance requirements.** (1) Companies operating a contract crew transportation vehicle must meet the following minimum insurance requirements:

(a) Five million dollars combined single limit coverage for bodily injury and property damage liability coverage.

(b) One million dollars uninsured and underinsured motorist coverage.

(2) Insurance policies must:

(a) Be written by an insurance company authorized to write insurance in the state of Washington.

(b) Include the Uniform Motor Carrier Bodily Injury and Property Liability Endorsement (Form F).

(3) A company must file and maintain a Uniform Motor Carrier Bodily Injury Property Damage Certificate of Insurance (Form E). Form E is a standard motor carrier insurance form recognized by the insurance industry and is filed with the commission by an insurance company.

(a) The Form E must be issued in the company name exactly as it appears on the company's permit.

(b) The Form E must remain in effect until canceled by a Notice of Cancellation (Form K). The Form K must be filed with the commission by the insurance company not less than thirty days before the cancellation effective date.

(c) The commission will accept an insurance certificate or binder for up to sixty days pending receipt of the Form E.

(d) A company may file a Uniform Motor Carrier Bodily Injury and Property Damage Liability Surety Bond (Form G) in place of a Form E.

(4) If a company's insurance filing is canceled and a new filing is not received prior to the cancellation date, the commission may dismiss a company's application for a permit or cancel an existing permit.

(5) If a contract crew transportation company hires a driver to drive a vehicle owned by the contract crew transportation company to transport a railroad crew, the insurance requirements outlined in subsection (1) of this section, apply.

(a) The insurance requirements may be met by either the contract crew transportation company, the third party, or the railroad company.

(b) It is the responsibility of the contract crew transportation company to obtain and retain proof of insurance coverage for the third-party driver.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, and 81.61.050. WSR 18-10-001 (Docket TR-170780, General Order R-591), § 480-62-284, filed 4/18/18, effective 5/19/18.]

**WAC 480-62-287 Contract crew transportation passenger notice requirements.** Companies operating a contract crew transportation vehicle must post adequate notice in a conspicuous location in all vehicles that advises passengers of:

(1) Their right to submit a complaint to the commission regarding alleged unsafe driver or vehicle conditions.

(2) The information necessary for filing complaints, which can be found on the agency's public website.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, and 81.61.050. WSR 18-10-001 (Docket TR-170780, General Order R-591), § 480-62-287, filed 4/18/18, effective 5/19/18.]



**WAC 480-62-290 Contract crew transportation safety training.**

(1) Companies providing contract crew transportation must provide at least eight hours of safety training that includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) Vehicle safety awareness.
- (b) Passenger safety awareness.
- (c) Rail yard safety.
- (d) Grade crossing safety.
- (e) Load securement.
- (f) Distracted driving.
- (g) Fatigued driving.
- (h) Familiarization with:

(i) Railroad yards, property, pick-up points and drop-off points where the driver is expected to operate the vehicle.

(ii) Any rules or requirements imposed by the railroad at the locations where the driver is expected to operate the vehicle.

(iii) General railroad safety requirements.

(iv) Grade crossing safety.

(i) The training required in subsection (h) of this section must be provided by the railroad for whom the driver will be transporting railroad crews. The railroad may contract with a third party or other designee to provide training, however, such delegation does not absolve the railroad of responsibility to ensure compliance with this section.

(2) Each company providing contract crew transportation must provide to the commission a description of its safety training program for approval prior to implementing the program at the company.

(3) Each company must require existing drivers to attend the safety training within six months of approval of the training program by the commission.

(4) If the commission finds driver safety behavior is such that refresher training is warranted, the commission may require such training.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, and 81.61.050. WSR 18-10-001 (Docket TR-170780, General Order R-591), § 480-62-290, filed 4/18/18, effective 5/19/18.]

**WAC 480-62-293 Contract crew transportation enforcement.** (1)

The commission will investigate safety complaints related to contract crew transportation. Information included in safety complaints that identifies the employee who submitted the complaint is exempt from public inspection and copying pursuant to RCW 42.56.330.

(2) The commission may, in enforcing rules and orders, inspect any contract crew transportation vehicle.

Contract crew transportation companies are required to inspect, or have inspected, every vehicle as required in WAC 480-62-278 through adoption of 49 C.F.R., Part 396.

(3) The commission may take enforcement action, based on a complaint or on its own motion, as follows:

(a) Assess penalties as warranted.

(b) Suspend or revoke a permit after notice and opportunity for hearing.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, and 81.61.050. WSR 18-10-001 (Docket TR-170780, General Order R-591), § 480-62-293, filed 4/18/18, effective 5/19/18.]

**WAC 480-62-296 Contract crew transportation reporting requirements.** Companies operating a contract crew transportation vehicle must, at the request of the commission, provide data relevant to any complaints and accidents, including:

- (1) Location;
- (2) Time of day;
- (3) Visibility;
- (4) Description of the event;
- (5) Any resulting property damage or personal injuries;
- (6) Any corrective action taken by the railroad company, person operating the contract crew transportation vehicle, or the commission.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, and 81.61.050. WSR 18-10-001 (Docket TR-170780, General Order R-591), § 480-62-296, filed 4/18/18, effective 5/19/18.]

**WAC 480-62-299 Contract crew transportation record retention requirements.** A contract crew transportation company must keep and provide or make available to the commission on request, and within forty-eight hours, the following records for the specified time periods:

- (1) All documents related to driver hours of service for a period of at least six months;
- (2) Verification of each driver's qualifications for the duration of the driver's employment and for three years thereafter;
- (3) All documents related to alcohol and controlled substance testing for a period of three years;
- (4) All documents related to vehicle maintenance for a period of twelve months; and
- (5) All documents related to any vehicle collisions or other accidents that occur for a period of at least three years from the date of the accident. Such records must include copies of all accident reports and any other documents that identify the date and geographic location of the accident, the driver name, the number of fatalities or persons injured and a description of those injuries.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, and 81.61.050. WSR 18-10-001 (Docket TR-170780, General Order R-591), § 480-62-299, filed 4/18/18, effective 5/19/18.]

### **PART 3: REPORTING REQUIREMENT RULES**

**WAC 480-62-300 Annual reports—Regulatory fees.** (1) The surface transportation board annual report form R1 must be used by Class I railroad companies in addition to the annual report form published by the commission. Class II and Class III railroad companies must use report forms periodically published by the commission.

(2) Any railroad company that transports crude oil in Washington must submit to the commission, in addition to its annual report, a statement that contains:

(a) All insurance carried by the railroad company that covers any losses resulting from a reasonable worst case spill.

(b) Coverage amounts, limitations, and other conditions of the insurance identified in (a) of this subsection.

(c) Average and largest crude oil train, as measured in barrels, operated in Washington by the railroad company in the previous calendar year.

(d) Information sufficient to demonstrate the railroad company's ability to pay the costs to clean up a reasonable worst case spill of oil as defined in (e) of this subsection including, but not necessarily limited to, insurance, reserve accounts, letters of credit, or other financial instruments or resources on which the company can rely to pay all such costs. For the purposes of this section, the railroad company must calculate the total cleanup costs for a reasonable worst case spill based on a minimum cost of sixteen thousand eight hundred dollars per barrel multiplied by the percentage of the largest train of crude oil described in (e) of this subsection.

(e) For the purposes of this section, a reasonable worst case spill for railroads shall mean the percent of the largest train load of crude oil, as measured in barrels, moved by that company in the previous calendar year, as described below:

[ (Maximum Operating Speed/65)<sup>2</sup> = Reasonable Worst Case Percent ]

(f) For the purposes of this section, maximum operating speed shall mean the top speed that the railroad company operates any train carrying crude oil in the state.

(3) Each year every railroad company is responsible for obtaining the proper report form from the commission. Reports must be completed for the preceding calendar year's operations. One copy of the completed annual report, along with the regulatory fee, must be submitted to the commission no later than May 1st of each year.

(4) **Regulatory fees.** The railroad company regulatory fee for Class I railroads and companies that haul crude oil is set by statute at two and one-half percent of gross intrastate operating revenue. The regulatory fee for all other railroad companies shall be set at one and one-half percent of gross intrastate operating revenue.

(a) The maximum regulatory fee is assessed each year, unless the commission issues an order establishing the regulatory fee at an amount less than the statutory maximum.

(b) The minimum regulatory fee that a railroad company must pay is twenty dollars.

(c) The twenty dollar minimum regulatory fee is waived for any railroad company with less than one thousand three hundred dollars in gross intrastate operating revenue.

(d) The commission does not grant extensions for payment of regulatory fees.

(e) If a company does not pay its regulatory fee by May 1st, the commission will assess an automatic late fee of two percent of the amount due, plus one percent interest for each month the fee remains unpaid.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 80.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.53.010, 81.53.240, and chapter 81.44 RCW. WSR 16-05-032 (Docket TR-151079,

General Order R-584), § 480-62-300, filed 2/9/16, effective 3/11/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 80.04.160, 81.04.160, and 2003 c 296. WSR 04-05-031 (Docket No. A-031232, General Order No. R-512), § 480-62-300, filed 2/11/04, effective 3/13/04. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-300, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]

**Reviser's note:** The brackets and enclosed material in the text of the above section occurred in the copy filed by the agency.

**WAC 480-62-305 Railroad community notice requirements.** This rule is not intended to cover immediate safety hazards or emergencies.

(1) At least ten days prior to taking any planned action that may have a significant impact on a community, railroad companies must notify, in writing, the governing authority of the community and the commission of the planned action.

Note: Maintenance practices, such as replacing broken planks if the opportunity to do so is unexpectedly presented, are not considered to be planned actions and would likely prevent safety hazards. In such situations, advance notice would not be required.

(2) Examples of actions that may have significant impact on a community include disrupting the use of a crossing for track inspection, reconstruction, maintenance, or blocking a crossing.

(3) The notice must contain a heading with the words "important notice" in prominent type and contain, at a minimum, the following:

- (a) Date the notice is issued;
- (b) A clear explanation of the type of planned event;
- (c) Specific location of the event;
- (d) An estimation of the start and completion date of the event;
- (e) Any additional information that will assist the community to plan for the event;
- (f) Railroad company contact person and phone number; and
- (g) A statement substantially as follows: "If you have questions about the regulatory process, you may contact the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission at: WUTC, 621 Woodland Square Loop S.E., Lacey, WA 98503 or P.O. Box 47250, Olympia, WA 98504-7250; 360-664-1262. Also, you may contact the Federal Railroad Administration at 1-800-724-5998 (toll-free)."

(4) Whenever a highway authority plans to perform maintenance that will affect a crossing, it must notify the railroad company and local jurisdiction at least ten days before performing the maintenance.

(5) Whenever a railroad company plans to perform maintenance that involves changing the type of material used as a grade crossing surface, it must also notify the commission at least ten days prior to performing the replacement.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.10.040 [80.01.040], 80.04.160, 81.04.160, and 34.05.353. WSR 22-15-104, § 480-62-305, filed 7/19/22, effective 8/19/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-305, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]

**WAC 480-62-310 Accident reports.** (1) A railroad company must make a telephone report to the commission's designee, the Washington state emergency operations center's twenty-four-hour duty officer (duty officer) at 1-800-258-5990 of any event connected to the operation of the railroad company that results in the:

(a) Release of any hazardous material (i.e., materials that are corrosive, flammable, explosive, reactive with other materials, or toxic);

(b) Death of any person;

(c) Injury to any person involved in a railroad-highway crossing accident that requires medical treatment in addition to first aid; or

(d) Property damage, amounting to fifty thousand dollars or more to property.

(2)(a) Telephone reports of events listed in subsection (1) of this section must be made by the railroad company within thirty minutes of when it learned of the event. The report must provide detailed information of the event to the duty officer. After receiving the telephone report from the railroad company, the duty officer will identify the necessary critical response and remediation resources and agencies on an initial and continuous basis through the completion of the response to the event; and

(b) The duty officer will notify the commission, the affected county or city emergency management office and other appropriate agencies of the event report.

(c) Provisions contained in (a) and (b) of this subsection must be carried out in accordance with the state's twenty-four hour duty officer standard procedures and the Washington Emergency Management Act, chapter 38.52 RCW.

(3) Each event report made under subsection (1) of this section by a railroad company must state, to the extent known, the:

(a) Name of the railroad(s) involved;

(b) Name and position of the reporting individual;

(c) Time and date of the event;

(d) Circumstances of the event;

(e) Number and identity of persons suffering injuries;

(f) Number of fatalities and the identities of the deceased;

(g) The type and amount of hazardous material spilled; and

(h) Other details that will assist in identifying the necessary response, as prompted by the duty officer.

(4) Accidents involving joint railroad company operations must be reported by the railroad company that controls the track and directs the movement of trains where the accident has occurred.

(5) Whenever a railroad company submits an event report to the Federal Railroad Administration, it must submit a copy to the commission at the same time.

(6) Whenever a railroad submits a report to the United States Department of Transportation concerning a hazardous materials incident or accident, it must submit a copy of the report to the commission at the same time.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-310, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]

**WAC 480-62-315 Miscellaneous reporting requirements.** (1) Within thirty days of a request from the commission, every railroad company must report to the commission on the sales, transfers or abandonments of all trackage which crosses a public road. The report must contain a description of the transaction, clear identification of the track involved in the transaction, the effective date of the transaction, and the name and address of the last known owner(s) or operator(s) of the section transferred.

(2) Upon request, every railroad company and railroad company official must report to the commission the information then available to it regarding the average number of daytime through trains, nighttime through trains, and switching movements over specific grade crossings in its control. Reports must identify each crossing by USDOT number and road name.

(3) Upon request, every railroad company must inform the commission in writing of the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the persons to whom to report emergencies of any nature, and problems or defects with crossing signals, passive warning devices, and crossing surfaces. The information must be current at all times.

(4) Upon request, every railroad company must provide the commission with access to or copies of track profiles. This requirement may be satisfied by allowing electronic access to track profiles.

(5) Upon request, every railroad company must provide the commission with access to or copies of its timetable. This requirement may be satisfied by allowing electronic access to the timetables.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-315, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]

**WAC 480-62-320 Remote controlled operations.** (1) Railroad companies, including logging and industrial railroad companies, must report to the commission their intention to create or enlarge a remote-control area at least thirty days before remote-control operations begin. Reports must include:

(a) The name of the railroad company;

(b) The approximate date when remote-control operations will start; and

(c) The location of remote-control operations. Railroads should provide sufficient information to allow the commission to determine what road crossings at grade are included within the remote-control area.

(2) Railroad companies must report to the commission their intention to create or enlarge a remote-control zone at least thirty days before remote-control operations begin. Reports must include:

(a) The name of the railroad company;

(b) The approximate date when remote-control operations will start; and

(c) The remote-control area within which the zone will be created.

(3) Railroads must report to the commission their intention to use cameras for point protection at crossings at least thirty days prior to the intended implementation date.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040 and 80.04.160. WSR 04-11-023 (Docket No. TR-021465, General Order No. R-514), § 480-62-320, filed 5/11/04, effective 6/11/04. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-320, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]

**WAC 480-62-325 Railroad police officers—Notice.** (1) Every railroad company that has employees who are commissioned as railroad police officers pursuant to chapter 81.60 RCW must send written notice to the commission within thirty days after the effective date of these rules.

(2) When any person is commissioned as a railroad police officer, an officer's commission is terminated, or a change occurs in the information previously reported under subsection (3) of this section, the affected railroad company must send written notice to the commission within ten days after the change occurs.

(3) The notices specified in subsections (1) and (2) of this section must contain the following information:

(a) The name of the railroad police officer;

(b) The badge number, identification number, code or other identifying information assigned to the railroad police officer;

(c) The date of commission;

(d) The state or states where the railroad police officer is commissioned; and

(e) The address and telephone number of the officer's primary business office.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-325, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]

#### **PART 4: GRADE CROSSING PROTECTIVE FUND**

**WAC 480-62-400 Purpose.** (1) As authorized by chapter 81.53 RCW, this chapter prescribes the manner in which a public, private or non-profit entity may apply to the commission for grants from the grade crossing protective fund, and to prescribe a program for the award of such grants.

(2) Grade crossing protective fund grants are to fund projects that:

(a) Reduce accident frequency and severity at either public and private railroad crossings; or

(b) Reduce pedestrian, trespassing, and motorist injuries and deaths on railroad rights of way at places other than crossings.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040(4), 80.04.160, and 80.40.320. WSR 06-05-018 (Docket No. TR-051060, General Order No. R-527), § 480-62-400, filed 2/6/06, effective 3/9/06.]

**WAC 480-62-405 Applications.** (1) Any public, private or non-profit entity may submit an application to the commission for a grant from the grade crossing protective fund. The commission will consider applications that propose projects that are within one of the following categories:

(a) **Grade crossing signals or other warning devices at public crossings.** This category includes safety improvement projects at public crossings under RCW 81.53.261 and 81.53.295.

(b) **Trespass prevention and motorist safety projects.** This category includes, but is not limited to, fencing or other physical barriers; warning devices; channeling devices; public information efforts; and enforcement-related activities.

(c) **Private crossing safety improvements.** This category includes, but is not limited to, crossing closures or consolidations; signals or warning devices; nighttime and off-hours locked gates; and making existing warning devices more noticeable.

(d) **Miscellaneous safety projects.** This category includes other projects within the scope of WAC 480-62-400(2) to foster creative and effective ideas and to address newly discovered problems. Such projects might include, but are not limited to, roadway improvements at or approaching grade crossings; mitigation of problems created by crossing closures; and removal of sight obstructions to signals or trains for the traveling public.

(2) An applicant may at any time submit an application on a form provided by the commission for a grant to pay for costs of public grade crossing signals or other warning devices as described in subsection (1)(a) of this section. The commission will evaluate and act on such applications as they are received.

(3) An applicant may at any time submit an application for a grant to pay for projects falling within the categories described in subsection (1)(b), (c), and (d) of this section. When funds are available for disbursement, the commission will issue a call for grant applications with a deadline by which applications must be submitted for competitive consideration. The commission will evaluate and act on all pending applications, deciding whether each application should be granted, in whole or in part; whether the application should be retained for further consideration if funds become available; or whether the application should be denied. Applications that have not been denied may remain active until the next ensuing call for grant applications is issued, not to exceed two years from the date of the application, or such shorter time as the commission may specify.

(4) Applicants for projects described in subsection (1)(b), (c), and (d) of this section must submit grant applications on a form provided by the commission that requires applicants to provide the following information:

(a) A detailed summary of the hazard to be addressed, including location, accident history, and the identities of the relevant railroad company and local agency (local government that has jurisdiction over the issue and/or territory involved);

(b) A summary of the project and how its implementation will mitigate or eliminate the hazard;

(c) Cost estimates;

(d) An estimated timeline for project completion;

(e) A description of how the project's success can be measured;

(f) A summary of efforts to coordinate with the railroad and/or local government, and the results of those efforts;



- (g) A description of the applicant's experience, capacity, and competency to complete the project; and
- (h) Such other information as the commission may require.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040(4), 80.04.160, and 80.40.320. WSR 06-05-018 (Docket No. TR-051060, General Order No. R-527), § 480-62-405, filed 2/6/06, effective 3/9/06.]

**WAC 480-62-410 Funding for project categories.** The commission may set aside a specific amount for the category that includes public grade crossing signals and other warning devices. It may designate a portion of the total available funds for each of the other project categories. The commission may limit the amount of funding per project for each project category. The commission may also award a grant that pays a portion of a larger safety project.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040(4), 80.04.160, and 80.40.320. WSR 06-05-018 (Docket No. TR-051060, General Order No. R-527), § 480-62-410, filed 2/6/06, effective 3/9/06.]

**WAC 480-62-415 Evaluation and award process.** (1) The commission will evaluate each petition for a project involving grade crossing signals or other warning devices at a public crossing when it is filed. The commission will evaluate projects in other categories after the deadline specified in a call for grant applications. When evaluating projects, the commission may perform diagnostic reviews at the site of proposed projects and may inquire about possible revisions to improve the proposal. If the applicant modifies the grant application in response to commission inquiries, the commission will consider the application in its modified form.

(2) The commission will consider grant applications at regularly scheduled open meetings. Any interested person may speak at the open meeting regarding the grant applications.

(a) The commission will award a grant for a project involving grade crossing signals or other warning devices at a public crossing if funds are available and the commission determines that the public safety requires the project. The commission will consider the severity of the hazard addressed by the project and the safety benefits expected to be achieved.

(b) The commission will award grants to projects in other categories that, in the commission's judgment, will achieve the greatest gains in safety relative to their cost. The commission will consider the relative severity of the hazard being addressed in each application, the safety benefits expected to be achieved by the proposed projects, the costs of implementing each project, the likelihood that the applicant can complete the project, and whether the applicant coordinated with and sought approval from the relevant local agency and railroad. The commission may also consider geographic diversity. The commission may condition an award on an amendment of the application regarding the requested level of funding, the suggested time limit for completion of the grant project, and any other proposed term or condition.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040(4), 80.04.160, and 80.40.320. WSR 06-05-018 (Docket No. TR-051060, General Order No. R-527), § 480-62-415, filed 2/6/06, effective 3/9/06.]

**WAC 480-62-420 Grant documents, timelines and fund transfers.**

(1) As a condition of every grant award, award recipient must sign an agreement provided by the commission specifying the terms of the grant.

(2) If it appears that an award recipient is not meeting the timelines specified in the application, commission order, or agreement, the commission may set specific project milestones and deadlines for meeting them. The commission may withdraw the award if the award recipient does not achieve a milestone on time.

(3) When an award recipient completes a project, it must submit its request to the commission for disbursement of grant funds on a form provided by the commission.

(4) The commission will verify that the project is complete and meets all terms and conditions of the application, order, and agreement. When the commission confirms that the project has been completed consistent with the application, order, and agreement, the commission will disburse grant funds to the award recipient.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040(4), 80.04.160, and 80.40.320. WSR 06-05-018 (Docket No. TR-051060, General Order No. R-527), § 480-62-420, filed 2/6/06, effective 3/9/06.]

**PART 5: ADOPTION BY REFERENCE**

**WAC 480-62-999 Adoption by reference.** In this chapter, the commission adopts by reference all or portions of regulations and standards identified below. They are available for inspection at the commission library. The publications, effective dates, references within this chapter, and availability of the resources are as follows:

(1) **Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations**, cited as 49 C.F.R., including all appendices and amendments is published by the United States Government Printing Office.

(a) The commission adopts the version in effect on December 31, 2023.

(b) This publication is referenced in WAC 480-62-160 (Compliance policy), WAC 480-62-200 (Roadway worker safety and operating rules and statutes), WAC 480-62-205 (Track safety standards), WAC 480-62-210 (Crossing signal circuitry), WAC 480-62-215 (Hazardous materials regulations), WAC 480-62-235 (Flaggers), WAC 480-62-240 (Railroad owned or operated passenger carrying vehicles—Equipment), WAC 480-62-278 (Contract crew transportation vehicle and driver safety requirements), and WAC 480-62-293 (Contract crew transportation enforcement).

(c) Copies of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations are available from the U.S. Government Online Bookstore, <https://bookstore.gpo.gov/>, and from various third-party vendors.

(2) **Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices**, cited as Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, or MUTCD, is published by the United States Government Printing Office.

(a) The commission adopts the version in effect on December 31, 2023.

(b) This publication is referenced in WAC 480-62-230 (Traffic control devices), WAC 480-62-235 (Flaggers), and WAC 480-62-245 (Railroad owned or operated passenger carrying vehicles—Operation).

(c) Copies of the MUTCD are available from the U.S. Government Online Bookstore, <https://bookstore.gpo.gov/>, and from various third-party vendors.

(3) **ANSI/ISEA Z308.1 - 2021 American National Standard for Minimum Requirements for Workplace First Aid Kits** is published by the American National Standards Institute.

(a) The commission adopts the version in effect on December 31, 2023.

(b) This publication is referenced in WAC 480-62-240 (Passenger carrying vehicles—Equipment).

(c) Copies of ANSI/ISEA Z308.1 - 2021 American National Standard for Minimum Requirements for Workplace First Aid Kits and Supplies are available from American National Standards Institute.

(4) **ANSI/ISEA 207-2011 - American National Standard for High-Visibility Safety Apparel** is published by the American National Standards Institute.

(a) The commission adopts the version in effect on December 31, 2023.

(b) This publication is referenced in WAC 480-62-235 (Flaggers).

(c) Copies of ANSI/ISEA 207-2011 - American National Standard for High-Visibility Safety Apparel are available from American National Standards Institute.

(5) **North American Standard Out-of-Service Criteria** (OOSC) is published by the *Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance* (CVSA).

(a) The commission adopts the version in effect on April 1, 2024.

(b) This publication is referenced in WAC 480-62-278 (Contract crew transportation vehicle and driver safety requirements).

(c) The *North American Out-of-Service Criteria* is a copyrighted document. Copies are available from CVSA.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 80.10.040 [80.01.040], 80.04.160, 81.04.160, and 34.05.353. WSR 24-13-092, § 480-62-999, filed 6/18/24, effective 7/19/24; WSR 23-13-003, § 480-62-999, filed 6/7/23, effective 7/8/23; WSR 22-15-104, § 480-62-999, filed 7/19/22, effective 8/19/22; WSR 21-13-130, § 480-62-999, filed 6/22/21, effective 7/23/21; WSR 19-14-118, § 480-62-999, filed 7/3/19, effective 8/3/19. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, and 81.61.050. WSR 18-10-001 (Docket TR-170780, General Order R-591), § 480-62-999, filed 4/18/18, effective 5/19/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 80.04.160, 81.04.160, and 34.05.353. WSR 17-15-054 (Docket A-170015, General Order R-589), § 480-62-999, filed 7/13/17, effective 8/13/17; WSR 16-05-035 (Docket A-151884, General Order R-585), § 480-62-999, filed 2/9/16, effective 3/11/16; WSR 15-06-048 (Docket A-143302, General Order R-579), § 480-62-999, filed 3/2/15, effective 4/2/15; WSR 14-05-001 (Docket A-131761, General Order R-574), § 480-62-999, filed 2/5/14, effective 3/8/14; WSR 13-05-023 (Docket A-121496, General Order R-569), § 480-62-999, filed 2/11/13, effective 3/14/13; WSR 12-05-063 (Docket A-111722, General Order R-564), § 480-62-999, filed 2/15/12, effective 3/17/12; WSR 11-04-041 (Docket A-101466, General Order R-562), § 480-62-999, filed 1/25/11, effective 2/25/11; WSR 10-03-044 (Docket A-091124, General Order R-557), § 480-62-999, filed

1/14/10, effective 2/14/10; WSR 09-01-171 (Docket A-081419, General Order R-554), § 480-62-999, filed 12/23/08, effective 1/23/09; WSR 05-21-022 (Docket No. A-050271, General Order No. R-521), § 480-62-999, filed 10/10/05, effective 11/10/05; WSR 04-01-152 (General Order No. R-511, Docket No. A-030852), § 480-62-999, filed 12/22/03, effective 1/22/04; WSR 02-18-033 (Docket No. A-020379, General Order No. R-501), § 480-62-999, filed 8/26/02, effective 9/26/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 80.01.040, 81.04.160, 81.24.010, 81.28.010, 81.28.290, 81.40.110, 81.44.010, 81.44.020, 81.44.101-81.44.105, and chapters 81.48, 81.53, 81.54, 81.60, and 81.61 RCW. WSR 01-04-026 (Docket No. TR-981102, General Order No. R-477), § 480-62-999, filed 1/30/01, effective 3/2/01.]